



# MODIANO, JOSIF, PISANTY & STAUB

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**EXHIBIT "A"**

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Daniel J. O'BYRNE\*\* (Reg. No. 36,625)

DR. ING. N. ZANOTTI\*

S. L. A. MODIANO\*

Milan, Italy – April 28, 2006

**RE: New U.S. Patent Application in the name of Luisa URBANO et al to be filed as confirmation of application No. PCT/EP2004/012615 of November 8, 2004**

Agent's docket: 42051/DOB/lp

Hon.

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

**MAIL STOP: P.C.T.**

WASHINGTON 20231 D.C. - U.S.A.

Sir,

Applicant desires processing of the above International Application in the national U.S. phase under P.C.T..

This is to enclose:

- 1) Transmittal letter in duplicate; Authorization (Form PTO-1390) to collect US \$ 490.=;
- 2) Assignment to Luisa URBANO and to NOBILTEC S.R.L.;  
+ Deposit Account Order for the Assignment fee in the amount of US \$ 40.= (2 pages);
- 3) Specification and claims with combined declaration and power of attorney duly signed on April 26, 2006 and attached thereto for the above Patent Application;
- 4) Three formal drawings accompanying the specification;
- 5) Preliminary Amendment with new page 8 of the specification, new claims 14 to 26 and new abstract of the disclosure;

We further enclose the following documents:

- 6) Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date;  
+ Copy of the Request;
- 7) Notification concerning submission or transmittal of Priority Document;
- 8) Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(b);

- + Notification of transmittal of the International Search Report and the Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority, or the Declaration;
- + International Search Report and cited references;
- + Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority;

9) Copy of publication of International Application published under PCT.

The priority date of the Italian Patent Application N. SA2003A000019 of November 10, 2003 is respectfully claimed. The Certified Copy was submitted at WIPO on April 1, 2005.

Please place of record in the file the enclosed papers and kindly acknowledge receipt thereof.

Will you please collect immediately the credit specified in the deposit account order, so as to allow the Application to receive an earliest filing date, however within:

MAY 10, 2006.

Thanking you in advance,

Respectfully submitted



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Daniel J. O'BYRNE  
(Reg. No. 36,625)



IFW

Docket No. 42051/DOB/pal

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors : Luisa URBANO, Veit Michael HEINZER  
Assignees : Luisa URBANO, NOBILTEC S.R.L.  
Serial No. : 10/577,829  
Filed : May 1, 2006  
For : "DEVICE FOR CLEANING FLOORS AND SIMILAR  
SURFACES"  
Group No. : still unknown  
Examiner : still unknown

**MAIL STOP: P.C.T.**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington D.C. 20231 USA

Dear Sirs,

In response to Notification of Missing Requirements under 35 U.S.C. 371 in the United States designated/elected Office (DO/EO/US) dated January 18, 2007, this is to draw your kind attention to the fact that :

- Oath/Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney duly executed April 26, 2006 by joint-Inventors Luisa URBANO and Veit Michael HEINZER was submitted upon entering the US National Phase, by being firmly stapled to the specification.

Such submission is clearly indicated in item 3) of transmittal letter dated April 28, 2006, a copy whereof is herewith enclosed for easy reference (Exhibit "A") .

A copy of the Oath executed April 26, 2006 is further enclosed (Exhibit "B").

In view of the foregoing, Agent for Applicant is confident that no additional fee (\$ 65) is due since the submission appears to have been complete upon filing.

However, if it is determined that a fee is due, the USPTO is authorized to withdraw the appropriate amount (\$ 65) from deposit account 13-3860. Because the Oath/Declaration was timely filed and the Notice of Missing Requirements was sent in error, Applicants respectfully protest the withdrawal of any fees and reserve all rights, including the right to receive a refund of any inappropriately withdrawn fees.

A copy of the Notification is being enclosed.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel J. O'BYRNE", is written over a horizontal line.

(Reg. No. 36,625)

Milan, Italy – February 16, 2007



## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
 United States Patent and Trademark Office  
 Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
 www.uspto.gov

|                             |                       |                  |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO. | FIRST NAMED APPLICANT | ATTY. DOCKET NO. |
| 10/577,829                  | Luisa Urbano          | 42051/DOB/lp     |

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.

PCT/EP04/12615

I.A. FILING DATE

11/08/2004

PRIORITY DATE

11/10/2003

Modiano & Associati  
 Via Meravigli, 16  
 Milano, 20123  
 ITALY

CONFIRMATION NO. 6266

371 FORMALITIES LETTER



\*OC000000022050834\*

Date Mailed: 01/18/2007

### NOTIFICATION OF MISSING REQUIREMENTS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371 IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)

The following items have been submitted by the applicant or the IB to the United States Patent and Trademark Office as a Designated / Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495).

- Indication of Small Entity Status
- Copy of the International Application filed on 05/01/2006
- Copy of the International Search Report filed on 05/01/2006
- Preliminary Amendments filed on 05/01/2006
- Information Disclosure Statements filed on 05/01/2006
- Request for Immediate Examination filed on 05/01/2006
- U.S. Basic National Fees filed on 05/01/2006
- Priority Documents filed on 05/01/2006

The applicant needs to satisfy supplemental fees problems indicated below.

The following items **MUST** be furnished within the period set forth below in order to complete the requirements for acceptance under 35 U.S.C. 371:

- Oath or declaration of the inventors, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.497(a) and (b), identifying the application by the International application number and international filing date.
- To avoid abandonment, a surcharge (for late submission of filing fee, search fee, examination fee or oath or declaration) as set forth in 37 CFR 1.492(h) of \$65 for a small entity in compliance with 37 CFR 1.27, must be submitted with the missing items identified in this letter.

## SUMMARY OF FEES DUE:

Total additional fees required for this application is \$65 for a Small Entity:

- \$65 Surcharge.

**ALL OF THE ITEMS SET FORTH ABOVE MUST BE SUBMITTED WITHIN TWO (2) MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR BY 32 MONTHS FROM THE PRIORITY DATE FOR THE APPLICATION, WHICHEVER IS LATER. FAILURE TO PROPERLY RESPOND WILL RESULT IN ABANDONMENT.**

The time period set above may be extended by filing a petition and fee for extension of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Applicant is reminded that any communications to the United States Patent and Trademark Office must be mailed to the address given in the heading and include the U.S. application no. shown above (37 CFR 1.5)

Registered users of EFS-Web may alternatively submit their reply to this notice via EFS-Web.  
<https://sportal.uspto.gov/authenticate/AuthenticateUserLocalEPF.html>

For more information about EFS-Web please call the USPTO Electronic Business Center at **1-866-217-9197** or visit our website at <http://www.uspto.gov/ebc>.

**If you are not using EFS-Web to submit your reply, you must include a copy of this notice.**

MAMIE P PERSON

Telephone: (703) 308-9140 EXT 227

**PART 1 - ATTORNEY/APPLICANT COPY**

| U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO. | INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. | ATTY. DOCKET NO. |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| 10/577,829                  | PCT/EP04/12615                | 42051/DOB/lp     |